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WASTE, PLAN FAILURES, AND INEFFICIENCY IN USSE FARM MACHINE PLANTS

INFLATED BUDGET ESTIMATES COVER LOSSES -- Moscow, Pravda, 7 Aug 53

Many plants in the USSR, including agricultural machine building plante, have been using large reserves in their budget estimates to cover up losses which may be incurred in various phases of plant operations

In 1951, agricultural machine building enterprices used such reserves to cover 191,900,000 rubles' worth of losses due to rejects and 50,600,000 rubles of nonproductive expenditures. Their report, however, showed savings of 59,500,000 rubles of their planned production costs.

EXCESSIVE USE OF RAW MATERIAL AT ROSTSEL MASH FLANT -- Moscow, Trud, 1 Aug 53

The unsatisfactory performance by the press and forging shop and the metal casting shop at the Rostov-on-Don Rostael'mach Plant brought about increased rejects of products by these shops, causing excessive use of raw materials. Instead of improving, the condition in these shops is growing worse; rejects have increased in the first quarter of 1953 as compared with the first quarter of 1952. In June 1953, the reject rate has doubled in comparison with the first quarter of 1953.

PRODUCTION OF COTTON HARVESTING MACHINES RELOW PLAN -- Tashkent, Fravda Vostoka, 7 Aug 53

During the first 6 months of 1953, the Tashkent Tashsel mash Plant fulfilled less than two thirds of its plan for production of cotton harvesting machines. This failure may adversely affect the plan to mechanize cetton harvesting.

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FREQUENT SHIFT OF PRODUCTION ASSIGNMENT DISORGANIZES PLANT -- Moseow, Investiga,

Ulitsa Krasina and Proletarskaya Ulitsa, two streets adjacent to the Ryazan' Ryazsel'mash Plant, are cluttered up with completed potato diggers which are now badly needed for potato crop harvesting. The plant director, Timofey Petrovich Kruglikov, states that potato diggers are parked on the streets because the plant has no parking facilities.

It is true that the plant is squeezed in between city blocks, neighboring enterprises, and railroad tracks; but the main reason why potato diggers are on the streets instead of on railroad flatears is the fact that they are not fully equipped according to requirements. One of the basic parts of the potato digger is an elevator for cleaning the dirt from the potatoes. This elevator is made up of 250 iron-rod-type links. Requirements call for a duplicate set of iron-rod-type links to go with each potato digger. This duplicate set has not been supplied by the plant, and inspectors refuse to approve the machines.

This difficulty could have been easily overcome, for the plant has five automatic stamping machines for production of iron-rod-type links. The plant uses only two of these stamping machines, owing to a shortage of skilled operators. Very often, unskilled workers are assigned to operate these machines, thus creating additional delay in assembling the digging machines. This is not the first year that the plant has been hopelessly struggling with organizing the work of its automatic stamping machines, a problem which it has created itself.

The preatest blame for conditions emisting at the plant falls on Glavsel'mash (Main Administration of Agricultural Machine Building), Ministry of Machine Building, which does not give the plant a chance to get settled. Glavsel'mash is constantly changing the plant's production assignment from one type of machine to another, without any apparent need.

The Ryancel mash Plant is one of the eldest plants of the agricultural machine building industry. The plant has designed and produced combines which, according to the plant's chief engineer, Petr Afanan's which Trofimov, are far ahead of US and English models. The plant has produced the KOK-2 potato combine and Ala developing the KOK-2 potato combine. The KOK-2 potato combine is already in use in agriculture. It has one drawback in that it can work on light soil only. The KOK-2 potato combine can work on any soil. The KOK-2 collects potatoes in a hopper and unloads them directly onto a truck. Although the KOK-2 is somewhat heavy, it has great possibilities, and provises, together with potato planters and billers, to machanice potato growing completely.

In the plant's yard, there is the framework of an assembly conveyer for the assembly of potato combines, but the conveyer will not be completed because Glavsel'mash has ordered the Ryassel'mash Finnt to discontinue the production of potato combines starting with the fourth quarter of 1953.

The Ryazzel'mash Plant was assigned the production of the SKG-4 checkrow four-row potato planter. After the plant had organized production and produced 1,650 cm2-4 planters, 150 above the norm, it was told to stop producing. The production of the SKG-4 planter was given to a plant in Belinskiy, Penzenskaya Oblast.

Given agricultural machine building plants were ordered to supply the Ryawsel'mash plant with 48 different parts for hillers and potato diggers. Not one of the plants carried out the order of P. N. Pigolkin, chief of Glavsel'mash. There are scores of hillers standing in the yard of the Ryamsel'mash Plant unfinished because the Krasnyy Oskol Plant failed to deliver chisel-shaped cultivating tecth.

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Pigolkin hints that the Ryazsel'mash Plant will be producing thousands of potato combines for light soil in the fourth quarter of 1953, but Pigolkin will not give any written orders.

The Tula plant will produce the KKR-2 potato combine according to orders issued by Glavsel'mash.
for production assignments.

The designers of the Ryazsel mash Plant are away, one in Belinskiy and another in Tula, helping plants in those cities to organize production of machines formerly produced by the Ryazsel mash Plant, which had the setup for the production of these machines.

The Ryazsel'mash Plant has no idea what it will produce and is not getting any help from Glavsel'mash.

NEED AGRICULTURAL MACHINES ADAPTABLE TO NORTHERN REGIONS -- Moscow, Izvestiya,

M. Gusev, deputy chairman of the Executive Committee, Kologrivskiy Rayon, Kostromskaya Oblast, wants agricultural machine designers to consider peculiarithes of the soil in northern regions when designing new machines. Gusev writes that five-furrow plows produced by the Odessa Plant imeni Oktyabr'skaya Revolutsiya sink in the soil of that region because they are equipped with narrow-rim wheels. The LT-7 flax pullers and the LK-7 flax combines are also giving trouble because they are mounted on narrow-rim wheels. The G-4 self-propelled combine is too heavy for rugged country; it has not enough power to go uphill, especially when its hopper is full.

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